

**LIMEY PASTOR**

**Snow, silent and sacred**



**COLIN BROWN**  
Faith

I was looking forward to a delicate snow last weekend. I didn't know if the promise of the forecast would be fulfilled, but there is something that the Lord puts into our weather to surprise us. Snow has a purity, a purity that seems to emanate from God's very breath, a creative softness that reminds us of the structure of heaven. We need purity to wash away the grime of craving and the mud of sin.

I am not fond of driving in the snow. I remember being in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the heart of the Lutheran empire in the United States, driving slowly and carefully down a long city street. Far ahead, really far ahead, a car braked. I began to brake, but I didn't slow down, I glided like an aircraft coming into land and no tapping of my foot changed the path. The steering wheel did nothing, and I glided and glided for about a quarter of a mile and gently collided with the car in front of me in a spirit of meditation. I ruined my perfect driving record. But it was Minnesota, this is what happened on days like this; there were no hard feelings, only the music of bending metal.

I had booked a weekend at a monastery to pray and have a retreat. The snow created a palace of whiteness and a vast silence that embraced the world like music that vibrated the soul. I remember bells too, sonorous and deep. And the nuns were in the cloisters praying. There was soup to eat.

The first day in the monastery I was engaged with the bathtub. Outside my window was the grand silence. Clouds of hot steam billowed up into the cool

atmosphere and I had at least five baths, serially, as if I was trying to drive a warmer season into my body. I became pink like a limey lobster.

Later on I walked in the ice garden and walked down a hallway that looked like a line of coffins.

A memory and a promise of the eternal. Later I wrote a poem that I sent the nuns, and they made it the front page of their monastery's magazine the next month.

I am remembering, as I write, the snow-covered shape of the church at the top of the hill in Boardman. It was glorious. A lot like I imagine heaven, shaped in sinuous curves and flows, like God's breath — and there in his space we will see the throne, the beautiful throne of God that will shimmer and writhe and sing, with a voice all her own. All of heaven will be alive with singing, not just the angels and ourselves, but all creation — and we will hear silence and great song as two notes, simultaneously and joyful. On the throne will be the lamb and it will almost be too much for human eyes to see and human ears to hear — hearing and seeing will be the reality of joy and the fulfillment of life.

I pray for that purity to come and reside within us, its holy presence cleansing all of our world, all of our nation and all of those who aim to lead it. Especially those who have been given this gift to lead it. May the great and silent snowfall of God's spirit come, in his son's name. Amen.

Colin Brown is the former pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boardman. You can reach him at colin.brown@usa.net.

**Area churches present Easter weekend services**

East Oregonian

Considered one of the most important holidays of the Christian church, Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Area churches offering special Easter weekend services and events include:



File photo  
**Alfredo Rodriguez portrays the part of Jesus during the 2016 "Way of the Cross" re-enactment by Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston. Several area churches have announced special Easter weekend services and events.**

**PENDLETON**

**"The Passion"**

The musical drama, presented by members of Baptist churches in Pendleton, Hermiston, Boardman and Pilot Rock, portrays the last week of Jesus Christ's life. It is Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Pendleton Baptist Church, 3202 S.W. Nye Ave. (503-260-6378, 541-720-8680)

**Community Sunrise Service**

Hosted by Bethel Assembly of God Church, the community is invited to attend Sunday at 6:30 a.m. at 1109 Airport Road. Dress warm for the outdoor service. (541-276-3987)

**First United Methodist Church**

Easter service Sunday at 9 a.m. at 352 S.E. Second St. (541-276-2616)

**First Christian Church**

Easter worship service is Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at 215 N. Main St. (541-276-5358)

**Peace Lutheran Church**

Easter service and brunch Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at 210 N.W. Ninth St. (541-276-7592)

**Resurrection Service**

Celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ Sunday at 10 a.m. at Living Word Christian Center, 401 Northgate (541-278-8082)

**HERMISTON**

**"Way of the Cross"**

Re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross, which depict events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus. Presented by Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Friday beginning at noon in the church parking lot, 685 W. Hermiston Ave. The group travels to the Hermiston Butte while acting out scenes. (541-567-5812)

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

Holy Week services continue with Stations of the Cross Friday from noon to 6:45 p.m., followed by

Good Friday Eucharist at 7 p.m.; and Easter morning Eucharist Sunday at 9 a.m. at 953 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-6674)

**New Hope Community Church**

Good Friday service at 6 p.m. at 1350 S. Highway 395. Childcare provided for ages 6 and under. "Celebrate the Resurrection" Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. Nursery and children's classes offered at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. (541-567-8441)

**Faith Presbyterian Church**

A Good Friday service at 7 p.m. at 1005 S.E. Ninth St. Rev. Bruce Sexton will present a message. Also includes special music by the choir. (541-567-9642)

**Sunrise Service at the Butte**

The Hermiston First United Methodist Church invites people to a sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. at the cross on the Hermiston Butte. Also, a combined service with Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church is at 10:30 a.m. at 191 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-3002)

**Hermiston Church of the Nazarene**

Easter Online at Sunrise (on Facebook Live). Rev. Eric Fritz presents a 10-minute inspirational message. Grab a cup of coffee, gather the family and login to the church's Facebook page (Sunday at 7 a.m.) to start Easter morning. Easter Celebration Service is Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at the church, 1520 W. Orchard Ave.

**Living Faith Church**  
"Death Defeated Easter Service" Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. at 1611 Diagonal Blvd. Followed by a drawing for an Easter basket and a 5,000-egg hunt. (541-567 4486)

**MEACHAM**

**Easter Sunrise Service**  
The public is invited to join the Blue Mountain Christian Cowboys for an Easter Sunrise Service. It is Sunday at 7 a.m. at the Historic Meacham Hotel. Music is provided by Marty Campbell of Pendleton and Pastor Jason Estle of Hermiston's Desert Rose Ministries will present the message. A complimentary breakfast buffet follows. (541-377-5003)

**MILTON-FREEWATER**

**Easter Sunrise Service**  
The Milton-Freewater Ministerial Association presents the special service from 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the American Legion Field on Southwest Second Ave. Rev. Steve Lyons of the First Christian Church will lead the service and Rev. Shane Nelson of Valley Christian Center will speak. In case of inclement weather, the venue is Bethel Baptist Church, 209 S.W. First Ave.

**First Christian Church**

A fellowship brunch will be served from 8:30-10 a.m. at 518 S. Main St. The Easter service begins at 10:45 a.m. No Sunday school classes on Easter.

Children are invited to an Easter egg hunt following the service. (541-938-3954)

**STANFIELD**

**Crossroads Community Church**  
Evangelist Wes Daughenbaugh is the guest speaker Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at 350 N.W. Sherman St. All guests will receive a gift. An Easter egg hunt follows. Also, there will be a scholarship drawing for Camp Elkanah, which will be given to a youth who helps with the egg hunt. (541-449-3434, 541-449-1251)

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at [tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com](mailto:tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4539

**COMMUNITY BRIEFLY**

**Hermiston chamber seeks table decorators**

HERMISTON — People with a creative flair are needed to decorate tables for the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce's Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon.

People can get involved with the effort in one of two ways — let your creative juices flow and decorate a table, which includes purchasing supplies; or sponsor a table to be decorated by paying \$175. The chamber will provide a

white tablecloth, eight white linen napkins and flatware for every table. The tables will be available for decorating Monday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Also, people can still nominate their assistant for recognition. Nomination forms (details available at the chamber website) must be submitted by Friday, April 13.

The luncheon is Tuesday, April 24 at 11:45 a.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Tickets are \$20 each or \$140 for a table of eight.

For more information, contact

Kelly Schwirse at 541-567-6151, [kelly@hermistonchamber.com](mailto:kelly@hermistonchamber.com) or visit [www.hermistonchamber.com](http://www.hermistonchamber.com).

**Recycling program benefits Agape House**

HERMISTON — People can help support Agape House through its bottle and can recycling program.

There are three ways people can donate recyclable cans and bottles to help support programs and services for those in need in the area. The options include

dropping off cans/bottles at Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. For those with a large amount to donate or if your business collects recyclables, people can call executive director Dave Hughes to arrange a pickup. Cans and bottles donated at Agape House will be used for the organization's gas program, the weekend food program for needy students and other small needs.

For those who use the BottleDrop Redemption Center, you can go to [www.bottledropcenters.com](http://www.bottledropcenters.com) and click on "Give" and search for Agape

House to make a donation directly from your account. A confirmation email will be generated. Money donated this way will be used for the student weekend food program.

Also, people can stop by Agape House to pick up special blue BottleDrop bags, fill them up and take them directly to the BottleDrop Redemption Center, 740 W. Hermiston Ave.

For more information about Agape House, including services, other ways to donate and volunteer opportunities, call Hughes at 541-567-8774.

**WORSHIP COMMUNITY**

**Living Word Christian Center**

401 Northgate, Pendleton

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**  
Sundays 10:00 am  
Youth: 0-6th grade

**MIDWEEK SEVICE**  
Wednesdays 6:00 pm  
Youth: 0-6th grade

Pastor Sharon Miller  
541-278-8082  
[www.livingwordcc.com](http://www.livingwordcc.com)

**PENDLETON FIRST**

**SUNDAYS**  
Morning Celebration - 10am  
Morning Kids Place - 10am  
Evening - 6pm  
Adult - Study  
Youth - Small Group  
Kids - Rangers & Girl's Ministries

**THURSDAYS**  
Celebrate Recovery - 6pm  
Celebration Place - Kids - 6pm  
The Landing - Teens - 6pm

**WEEKLY**  
Groups For All Ages

AN ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH  
1911 SE Court Ave.  
541.276.6417 • [pendletonfirst.com](http://pendletonfirst.com)

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
(Disciples of Christ)

215 N Main • Pendleton, OR 97801

Behind These Stone Walls Beat the Hearts of Some of the Warmest Most Sincere, Most Caring People in Pendleton. We Invite You to Come Get Acquainted!

Sunday School: 9:30am  
Worship: 10:40am  
Fellowship to follow

Office 541-276-5358 M-F, 8:30-12:30  
[www.fccpendleton.org](http://www.fccpendleton.org)

**To share your worship times call 541-278-2678**

**Peace Lutheran Church**

210 NW 9th, Pendleton ELCA

Join us Sundays  
9:30 am Sunday Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship

11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Class  
~Come and be at Peace~  
on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church LCMC**

Sunday worship at 11:00 AM

420 Locust St. • Boardman, OR  
541-481-6132  
Colin Brown, Pastor

**Grace Baptist Church**

555 SW 11th, Hermiston  
567-9497

Nursery provided for all services

Sunday School - 9:30 AM  
Worship - 10:45 AM  
6:00 pm  
Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM

"Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"

**Community Presbyterian Church**

14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR  
922-3250

**Worship: 10 AM**  
**Sunday School at 11:30**

**COME meet Jesus at PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH**

3202 SW Nye Ave Pendleton, OR  
541-276-7590

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes 9:45 AM  
Sunday Youth Group 6:00 PM  
Mon. Community Women's Study 9:30 AM & 6 PM  
Awana Kids Club (K-6th grade)  
Wed Men's Study 6 PM  
MOPS meeting the 1st Thur of the Month 6 PM

**Community Sunrise Service**

**April 1 • 6:30am**

**Bethel Assembly of God Church**  
1109 Airport Rd.  
Dress warmly!  
Info: 541.276.3987

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

-Presbyterian Church (USA)-  
201 SW Dorion Ave.  
Pendleton

Service of Worship - 10:00 am  
Children's Sunday School - 10:20 am  
Fellowship - 11:00 am  
[www.pendletonpresbyterian.com](http://www.pendletonpresbyterian.com)

**Open Hearted... Open Minded**

**Faith Center Church**

**Worshiping God Loving People**

108 S. Main • 276-9569

**Worship Service: 10:30am**  
**Sunday School: 9:30am**  
[pendletonfaithcenter.org](http://pendletonfaithcenter.org)

**Redeemer Episcopal Church**

241 SE Second St. Pendleton (541)276-3809  
[www.pendletonepiscopal.org](http://www.pendletonepiscopal.org)

Sunday Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Holy Communion Noon  
Weekly Adults Spiritual Life Group

**All Are Welcome**

**PENDLETON LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH**

Sunday Service: 10am & 6pm  
Tuesday Kingdom Seekers: 7pm  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm

We offer: Sunday School • Sign Language Interpreters • Nursery • Transportation • & more!

Pastor Dan Satterwhite  
541.377.4252  
417 NW 21st St. • Pendleton, OR 97801  
[www.facebook.com/PendletonLighthouseChurch](http://www.facebook.com/PendletonLighthouseChurch)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*in Mission for Christ LCMC*

Sunday Worship.....9:00 AM  
Bible Study.....10:00 AM

**Red Lion Hotel**  
( Oregon Trail Room )  
[www.faithpendleton.org](http://www.faithpendleton.org)

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**

Saturday Services  
**Pendleton**  
1401 SW Goodwin Place  
276-0882  
Sabbath School 9:20 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am

**The Salvation Army**  
Center for Worship & Service

**Sunday Worship Service**  
9:30 - Sunday School  
**10:30 - Worship Service**

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
5:30 Family Fellowship Meal - 6:00 Bible Study

**COME AS YOU ARE**  
150 SE Emigrant  
(541) 276-3369

**GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**  
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR

[www.graceandmercy.lutheran.org](http://www.graceandmercy.lutheran.org)  
Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided)  
Fellowship, Refreshments & Sunday School  
Check Out our Facebook Page or Website for More Information

**541-289-4535**  
Tom Inch, Pastor

Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA  
(First United Methodist Church)  
191 E. Gladys Ave. / P.O. Box 1108  
Hermiston, Oregon 97838



**First United Methodist Church Pendleton**

352 SE 2nd Street, Pendleton OR  
**Sunday Worship 9am • 541-276-2616**

Worship Broadcast on KUMA 1290 @ 11am  
Worship Livestream at [www.facebook.com/FUMCPendleton/](http://www.facebook.com/FUMCPendleton/)  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors  
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

**St. Johns Episcopal Church**  
Join Us  
On Our Journey  
With Jesus.

**Scripture, Tradition and Reason**  
Family service 9am Sunday  
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston  
PH: 567-6672  
We are an all inclusive Church who welcomes all.